

CENTRAL LUTHERAN MESSENGER

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The Rev. Dr. Carolyn Hellerich, Pastor
Ethan Bergman, Vicar

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Please e-mail your articles to Central Lutheran Church
Lea.Ramirez@clcyakima.org





Dear Friends in Christ,

*"I am able to do all things through the one who strengthens me."
Philippians 4:13*

You all should have received a letter about this in the US Mail. It is with mixed emotions that I have decided to retire August 1, 2020. It's been almost four years since Dave and I came for the interview weekend here, and your special meeting of the congregation later that week that called me to serve you.

But the process began much earlier than that, when Dave and I had submitted our Rostered Ministers Profiles in December of 2015. We were put into the ELCA's network and began hearing from bishops interested in our gifts and sense of call.

Bishops know their congregations well, and are looking for someone with particular educational and life experiences and abilities who fit the needs of the congregations seeking candidates. You also identified your needs in your Ministry Site Profile. Our bishop at the time and I spoke many times during the spring of 2016, and ultimately, I allowed my name to be given to you.

I have accomplished the things I had as my goals when I arrived in August of 2016, and more. The world, our country, and this congregation have changed much in the past 4 years, and the Covid-19 pandemic has had a powerful impact on all of our lives. Dave and I haven't lived anywhere near our children since our daughter left home for college 15 years ago. These experiences have given us reason to pause and reconsider our calls and our priorities.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton says, "In my work and travel, I have focused on four guiding emphases: We are church. We are Lutheran. We are church together. We are church for the sake of the world." It seems now is a good time for all of us to re-center our thoughts on who we are as we all enter this time of transition:

We are church. (We are not a social club, or a school, or a corporation.)

-Our lives are formed by word and sacrament and then we are sent out.

-The gospel Word forms faith.

-We need to talk about Jesus and speak his name.

We are Lutheran. (Our own heritage, and the theology of Martin Luther give us identity.)

-We can't form relationships with other denominations if we aren't clear about who we are.

-We need to be careful not to define ourselves by culture or cuisine.

-Lutherans tell the Jesus story in a particular way.

We are church together. (We don't exist in a vacuum, but in a diverse and complex world.)

-This is not just a slogan. It's Scripture.

-There is no such thing as a solitary Christian.

-We are one expression of the Lord's vineyard.

-There are many expressions of religious belief, and we need to work together.

We are church for the sake of the world. (We serve others, do justice, and walk humbly.)

-Some of the most important words spoken in the liturgy are: "Go in peace. Serve the Lord."

-We are called to love the neighbor, and we need to be intentional about this.

-In baptism we are all called to run to the dark and deadly places to bring the light of Christ.

This scripture helps me remember who I am, and who we at Central are ALL called to be:

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit." First Corinthians 12:12-13

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Carolyn





Vicar Message

June 2020

Vicar Ethan Bergman

Romans 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

It has been a pleasure to serve at Central Lutheran Church this year. This will be my last Vicar Message since June 2020 is my last month as your Vicar. It is difficult to believe that I have been Vicar at CLC for a year already!

As you know, Pastor Carolyn has decided to retire and move to Minneapolis with Dave to be closer to family. Pastor Carolyn has been a joy to work with and I have been blessed to learn from her. I so much appreciate her ability to thoughtfully critique my sermons to make them more personal and to have a common thread from beginning to end. So I thank Pastor Carolyn for giving me the opportunity to walk side by side with her.

I also thank my CLC Internship Committee, Irene Hausken, Melanie Sanderson, Devi Baken, and Rick Rodden. They have provided blessed guidance during my time at CLC. Thank you for journeying with me through this year.

Thank you all, Central Lutheran Church for taking a chance with this “new old guy.” You have shown so much kindness during my year serving CLC. You have all been so gracious and helpful in this year of training.

As far as my future, my candidacy committee with the Northwest Intermountain Synod meets in June to discuss the next steps in the process. So I should know more by the end of June how the rest of my training will turn out.

In the meantime, I continue in my faculty role at Central Washington University for at least one more year.

When we reach those points in life where we don't know what will happen next, or even worse when we think we can go much further or much longer, the Romans passage above offers some respite from those thoughts.

When we are missing those loved ones that we can no longer see, or touch during this time of physical distancing and stay at home, perhaps knowing that the Spirit is there to intercede with sighs too deep for words, might provide the solace and peace we need to get through those moments.

Knowing that the Spirit intercedes for all of us who God considers to be saints, might help us adapt to this adjusted time in our lives.

From a spiritual perspective, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is also looking at a new ways of serving God. In a publication titled, “*Called Forward, Together in Christ: ELCA Future Directions for 2025*,” the ELCA leadership sets strategic direction for the Church.

We are able to access the entire document at:

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Future_Directions_Paper_Called_Forward_Together_in_Christ.pdf?_ga=2.57743146.1657651168.1583772360-1556432790.1557526700

ELCA Strategic Directions 2025 tells the story of the church we are becoming – a church that is confident about who we are in Christ and what God is calling us to do. The directions are presented in three parts: The ELCA – Who we are; What unites us as church; and, Our goals and priorities.

In April we considered *Who we are*. In May we considered *What Unites us as a Church*. In this Vicar's Message, we are planning to explore *Our goals and priorities* as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Our Goals and Priorities

The ELCA identified five goals for us to consider.

Goal One: That we be a thriving church, spreading the gospel and deepening the faith for all people.

This goal includes developing and deepening our understanding of who we are as a Lutheran group and equip leaders and all the baptized to communicate our theology and beliefs in accessible and compelling ways.

This goal includes renewing and strengthening evangelism, as well as adopting a strategic and coordinated way to the formation, education, and continuing development of lay leaders and rostered ministers.

This goal supports and empowers congregations through mission planning and development, encouraging a culture of deepening faith, hope, and openness to change.

This goal also maintains our commitment to being a church deeply engaged in ecumenical dialogue, relationships, and partnerships for the sake of Christian unity.

Goal Two: That we are a church equipping people for their baptismal vocations in the world and in the Church.

Goal Two includes forming and equipping the baptized to express their faith through their life and witness as followers of Jesus. This goal also includes supporting and providing resources for faith formation and practice with children and across the life span. Also included here is the intention to provide space, support and opportunities for youth and young adults to participate in ministries and pursue their calling.

Goal Three: That we are an inviting and welcoming Church that reflects and embraces the diversities of our communities and the gifts and opportunities that diversity brings.

Priority areas for action within this goal is that we exist as an outwardly focused church by actively reaching out to people in our neighborhoods through relationships, in service, and with an openness for mutual learning. Also included here is that we address discrimination and oppression and equip leaders at all levels of the church to understand, speak out and act against discrimination of any kind.

Goal Four: That we exist as a visible church deeply committed to working ecumenically and with other people of faith for justice, peace, and reconciliation in our communities and around the world.

Included in this goal is the harnessing of resources for local, national, and global ministries to alleviate poverty and hunger. Also included is the support to take action in local and international response to national disasters, violence and conflict.

Another priority for action under Goal Four is to be a visible witness and agent of change for justice and creation care.

Goal Five: That the ELCA be a well-governed, connected, and sustainable Church.

Priority areas for action within this goal are that we continue to re-evaluate and strengthen governance in the ELCA to provide clarity of roles and authority, strong relationships, and shared leadership.

Also so there is a continual review of Church structures so that they fit with the future needs of the Church.

In addition, that there is improved communication across this Church in support of proclaiming the Gospel. This includes promoting new forms of evangelism and connecting the Church as a whole as one part of the Body of Christ. This is especially important within the restrictions we are currently experiencing with the COVID 19 pandemic.

So as we live in this disrupted time of physical distancing with the threat of the coronavirus looming, praying for normalcy to return, it is good for you and I to remember that Christ offers the light and peace that we depend on. And that we are Church and that it is through God's grace that we are saved through faith!

Blessings and Peace to you as we consider our personal futures and the future of our Church together!

Vicar Ethan



To wish Pastor Carolyn the happiest of retirements, Hospitality is making a scrapbook. We would like to include letters, notes, and pictures from our church family.

If you would like to contribute, please email or snail mail to me or to Lea at the church. We would like to have this ready to send to her when she gets to her new home in Minnesota.

Thank you, Hospitality & Merry Herron
Email address: mgdolls@aol.com



5/25/2020

Greetings and may the peace of the Lord be with you all!

We have much to celebrate and look forward to at Central as we roll into the summer months and seemingly countless days in these virus times.

A good goodbye...

First, we celebrate the exciting new chapter Pastor Carolyn and Dave will soon experience in retirement. We thank our pastor for her faithful service these past four years and congratulate Pastor Carolyn on this milestone. We pray that our Lord continues to richly bless both Pastor and Dave as they enter this new chapter in their lives!

Next, we tip our hat to Vicar Ethan who wraps-up his intern experience with us at the end of June. Congratulations and job well done, Ethan! Thanks for your warm and caring approach to us while serving the Lord in this vicarage. Ethan has expressed his gratitude for this experience at Central and especially all he has learned from Pastor Carolyn as she has guided and mentored him through this internship.

We will be going through a transition soon and will be working closely with our synod's assistant to Bishop Kuempel, Pastor Phil Misner. We will "meet" Pastor Phil on July 5 as he will be delivering our first Sunday (video) service in our vacancy (Pastor Carolyn's vacation month of July).

I have had a productive initial conversation with Pastor Phil regarding our transition and will keep you apprised as the council engages in this work. However, a couple things to remember he emphasizes:

Step 1: Have a "good goodbye!" We will and that is what we do! We already have a committee working on these two goodbye celebrations so stay tuned.

Step 2: Do not get the cart in front of the horse.

Step 3: Much to do and many voices to be heard. We will announce next steps and opportunities for involvement soon. (See step 2)

In other news: We thank Laura Hahn for heading up our **Corona Virus Advisory Committee**. She is joined by Duane Monick, Jean Gunderson, Robin Kisala, John Kisala, Bruce Willis, Jeff Hagen, Wendy Baker, John Baken, and council liaison, Carissa Switzer. Thanks in advance as this group will inform our next steps in return to worship on our campus.

Look for a new feature in the Messenger called **Celebrating Central**. There are so many celebrations and expressions of gratitude to recognize! We would like to recognize monthly milestones in the Messenger. Please send Lea birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, birth announcements, etc. For example, did you know that our rose bushes don't trim themselves? Did you know that our beautiful quilts don't make themselves? And what else...?

I'm sure I'm forgetting something but for now, take care and God bless you!

Stephen Merz

“Celebrating Central”



Ron Burkhardt keeps the roses looking nice, plus he does the recycling.



Virgil Umbarger cares for the Ann France Memorial Garden with Selma’s supervision.



Dorothy Brink rakes and cleans the courtyard.



The Diecemakers continue to make the lovely quilts for Quilt Sunday in November.

**HOW
YOU
CAN
HELP**

We have small projects around the church. We have a stack of bags of leaves to go into the dumpster, they are currently in the playground.

If you want to get out of the house call the office. When we go Phase 2 we can clean the church!



JUNE

Birthdays

1st Robert Toop

4th Sandra Berry & Jordan Jurez

5th Alana Muir

6th Rick Nygard

7th Virgil Umbarger & John Molsberry

8th Paul Larson & Lorry Johnson

10th Ben Barg & Jeff Hagen

11th Marie Halverson

12th Kris Vestad

13th Carissa Switzer

14th Zachary Sanderson

16th Paul Melville & Betty Tester

19th Doug Dalke, Kayla Murray, & Sheila Gunderson

22nd Jeremy Brown, Samantha Meiser, & Avery Allen

23rd Tim Dray & Doris Benish

24th Anne Bounds, Gordan Bueling, & Paul Rogers

26th Dustin Greenside

27th Pat Ubelaker

29th Brocklyn Bishop



7th Robert & Mary Toop's 44th

9th Dale & Janice Miller's 46th

7th Scott & Jane Peterson's 44th

19th Paul & Kristina Larson's 48th

Soren & Julie Rottman's 20th

Von & Christine Steinhilb's 48th

21st Victor & Suzanne Tarr's 34th

23rd Larry & Betty Douglas' 52nd

24th Ken & Barbara Toop's 41st

28th John & Katy Svendsen's 21st

Milton & Sheila Gunderson's 39th

29th Matthew & Emma Argo's 6th

Jeff & Anne Chapman's 34th

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR
GRADUATES!



Avery Allen - Selah High School
Delaney Boyle - Highland High School
Adrian Guzman - AC Davis High School
Ben Derry - La Salle High School
Jacob Sanderson - Univ of Washington
Spencer Pierone - Univ of Hawaii

Financial results thru

April 30, 2020

Offerings/Income			Expenses by major category		
	April	Year to date		April	Year to date
General fund	20,135.00	117,867.10	Salaries & benefits	21,791.28	88,256.77
Building Usage	200.00	6,497.00	Youth & Family	128.40	873.19
other income	207.52	(162.09)	Worship	127.25	1,454.22
Transfers			Hospitality	-	563.11
from endowment fund	-	13,467.59	Stewardship/Church in Society	5,316.21	8,493.05
from money market			Property	4,171.52	23,988.67
Gertie Hein - Visitation	-	-	Office	806.79	4,890.91
Total	20,542.52	137,669.60	Total	32,341.45	128,519.92

April 2020

operating loss, net of transfers \$ (11,798.93)

net loss \$ (11,798.93)

Year to date

operating income, net of transfers \$ (4,317.91)

net income \$ 9,149.68

Monthly results:

Central Lutheran's offering came in \$8,477 less than budget for the month. Operational expenses were \$394 less than budget for the month. This results in operating loss, net of transfers of \$11,799 for the month of April. Including transfers, we have net loss of \$11,799 for the month of April.



Year to Date:

Total offerings/revenues to date are -\$22,423 less than budgeted amount as of the end of the month. Total operating expenses to date are running \$2,422 under budget. Net of transfer, year to date we are in the red by \$4,318. Including transfers, year to date we are in the black by \$9,150.

Balance Sheet items:

Beginning of year cash balance	34,148.34
Activity thru April 2020	9,149.68
Payment of benevolence accrued in prior year	
reclassification between dedicated and undedicated	(24,471.13)
Current balance - undedicated bank account assets	\$ 18,826.89

Please take a moment to write a card or letter to each of our high school and college graduates to be delivered with their quilts. Cards can be sent C/O Central Lutheran or they can be dropped off in the "Card Drop Off" located to the left of the upper main entrance doors.

The "Card Drop Off" is also a great place to leave cards for Pastor Carolyn and Vicar Ethan!





Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Kyle Dixon
Pastor Mike Scheid
Rev Charles Ewan
Dr. Richard Ehlers
David Desmarais
Jessica Rodden
Gerald Ramsey
Jeff Chapman
Larry Douglas
Bob Dreisbach
Fred Halverson
Steve Berreman
Ruth Borders
Gary Pierone

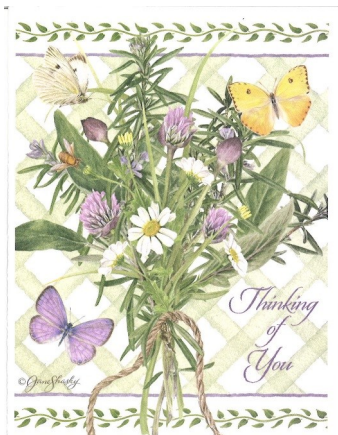
Ongoing Prayer For Shut Ins

Phyllis Gillihan (*Ponderosa*)
Mary Frances Jones (*Cedar Hills*)
Joanne Puyear (*Arbor House*)
Art Ries (*Livingcare*)
Toni Perschke (*Avamere*)
Walter & Edith Mabry (*Yakima*)
Betty Douglas (*Moxee*)
Mae Hansel (*Yakima*)
Elaine Bueling (*Fieldstone Memory Care*)
Mel Carlson (*Fieldstone Memory*)

Please pray for all the people affected with Covid 19

May 2020 Worship at 9:00 am on Sundays

5/03/2020 Live Stream: 165
5/10/2020 Live Stream: 136
5/17/2020 Live Steam: 157
5/24/2020 Live Stream: Bishop's Service
5/31/2020 Live Stream: No count yet



Thanks for all your messages of encouragement they mean alot to me.

Love,
Joanne
(Puyear)



Stay in Place order at our house doesn't look much different than a typical summer vacation. We are loving spending meal time together - and are taking it a step further trying to recreate our favorite restaurants at home. School work is not going well - as you can see by Abby hiding under her chair. We know that God will use this all for good - there is a rainbow coming!!

Stay safe friends, we can't wait to be back together in person. In the meantime, make the best of this and find pleasure in small things.

Brad, Melissa, Emma, Ava, and Abby Christianson



SCOUTING NEWS

Our newest update on Girl Scout cookies is Yakima can begin receiving cookies during Phase 2. We will need extra time for each Girl Scout to pick up cookies meaning it's likely your friends may receive cookies before you do. Thank you for being so patient with the girls and their grown ups. We will be contacting you to safely deliver or have you pick up cookies. If you did not order cookies and would like to please visit <https://digitalcookie.girlscouts.org/scout/abby618462>

For simplicity we are sending all orders to this page but all girls will share credit for any order placed. Cookies can be shipped from Spokane for a small fee or delivered locally for no extra charge. Thank you!!

Melissa Christianson, Denise Svendson, and all our Girl Scouts

On the Corner News:

“To give food, is to give life” were thankful words spoken to me on May 18th, as I handed meals to one of our most needy OTC families.

We are still distributing meals to our OTC kids and we will continue to do so through the end of June. We have handed out over 760 meals since we started on April 20th. Many of our families live below the poverty level and so being able to provide them with some extra groceries during this time of great need has been a blessing. Thanks “for giving life” by supporting OTC with extra food and cash for shopping.

CHALK YOUR WALK



Vanessa 2nd Grade

OTC kids were given sidewalk chalk and asked to create a positive message to lift spirits, encourage people to stay home, or say thank you to those keeping us safe.



Hope Grows Here! Arianna H.S.

Are you looking for ways to help during the pandemic?

Please consider providing items from the list below that will be used to feed the homeless at Camp Hope or support the meals we are handing out to OTC kids. Contact Denise Svendsen at 509-949-8580 or denise.svendsen@clcyakima.org to arrange dropping off items during the church closure.

OTC:

Plastic Grocery Bags
Canned Chicken, Tuna, Soup, Veggies, Fruit or Spaghetti Sauce
Mac and Cheese (family size)
Cup a Noodle or Ramen Noodles

Camp Hope: (75 to 80 folks) Next Serving Date is Monday, June 8th

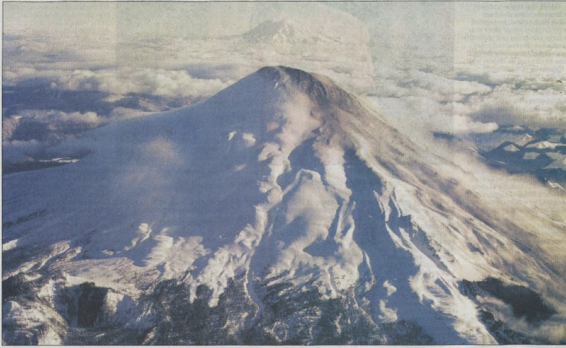
Water
Pop
Costco –Jello Pudding (Box of 36)
Individual Wrapped Cookies/Crackers or Rice Krispie Treats
Plastic Spoons

Thank you to Ethan Bergman, for working with his synod adhoc committee to award our CLC feeding ministry with \$800 to help us with feeding the homeless at Camp Hope. This unexpected funding is especially important in helping us with the extra costs we have had in order to continue providing substantial meals during these pandemic months.



**Boardman Marina and RV Park is open, so we are planning Church Camp. June 12-14. Social distancing of course!
Contact Ardelle Ringhouse for more information,
509-945-6249.**

OUTDOORS > CLIMBERS REMEMBER MOUNT ST. HELENS AS IT USED TO BE



An aerial view of Mount St. Helens on April 2, 1980, six weeks before it erupted.

Lost challenges

'It was a beautiful mountain and it's not anymore'

ST. HELENS

Continued from Page 1B

"I would say it was shorter than, say, the easy route on Mount Adams," Nelson said. "But it was more difficult in the sense it was on glaciers and you had to rope up."

On his first trip as a senior with some classmates from Selah High School, he decided overcast skies would allow him to forgo sunscreen and protective sunglasses. That turned out to be a valuable lesson for the next time he climbed St. Helens with a University of Washington roommate in 1973, even though the well-conditioned high schoolers made quick work of the short climb before sliding down the chute on Dog's Head.

"I got probably the worst sunburn I ever got in my whole life," Nelson said. "My eyes got burned and by 10 o'clock I couldn't open my eyes anymore."

Christensen had even less experience when he first joined his brother and father on Mount St. Helens in 1973. The 12-year-old student at Yakima's Lewis and Clark Middle School, who'd been told he was too young to take The Cascadians' mountain climbing course, had planned to join the group for its annual climb up Mount Adams, but when that got rained out the Christensens decided to try St. Helens.

No one in the group knew much about glacier travel, so they learned by watching groups in front of them. That experience helped Christensen establish himself as a serious rock climber with successful trips up El Capitan in California and all of Washington's volcanoes by the time he climbed St. Helens for the fourth time in 1976.



Evan Abell, Yakima Herald-Republic

Jeff Hagen, left, and Joyce Hagen pose for a portrait Friday in Yakima.

"It (was) a pretty big summit," Christensen recalled of St. Helens. "So as we walked back to the actual little rolling high point that was the top, you can see Rainier, Adams and things that are higher, but don't have a chance to look down."

Mount Hood was also visible on clear days, and the Hagens even remember seeing Mount Baker to the north. That came as a welcome surprise after they'd nearly canceled the trip due to bad weather the day before.

Fortunately, the skies cleared overnight and Jeff Hagen said he woke up to the suddenly bright full moon shining through his tent. Only a long wait while

a group of 15-20 people from Portland worked their way through a bottleneck delayed an otherwise quick 12-13 hour trip up and down the mountain in June.

"We had glorious weather and it was a lot of fun," Joyce said. "We were novice climbers at that point, so it was good to be with the Cascadians."

Volcanic activity at Mount St. Helens was nothing more than ancient history for the local climbers as they stood atop the peak, smelling none of the sulfur that permeates Mount Hood's summit and certain places near the top of Mount Rainier. They saw no cones, craters or other

evidence of looming danger from the long-dormant mountain.

A new perspective

That all changed by the spring of 1980, when the mountain began spewing smoke and ash, making it impossible for Nelson to take his new wife there as planned.

Instead, they summited Mount Hood just a little before 8:30 a.m. and begin heading back down the south side toward Timberline Lodge when they heard yelling from those at the top. Nelson's wife turned down the idea of climbing back to the top to watch the massive explosion.

He still managed to drive back to Yakima that night, slowly

Hard to believe
its been 40
years!

For complete
article look in
the Yakima
Herald-
Republic
Newspaper
May 18, 2020



**HAPPY
FATHER'S DAY**

We Honor You